

SEEK AMERICA'S AID

ALLIES MAKE KNOWN POSITION ON ADRIATIC QUESTION.

PREMIERS REPLY TO WILSON

Declare Never Had Contemplated Settlement Without O. K. of U. S.

—Tell of London Treaty.

London.—Premiers Lloyd George of England and Millerand of France in their reply to President Wilson's latest communication on the Adriatic question repeat the assurance that they "never had the intention of making a definite settlement without obtaining the views of the United States government."

The reply, which is dated February 26, states that the absence of an American representative had proved in practice an almost insurmountable obstacle to the success of the negotiations.

The premiers observe as a fact of the greatest importance that President Wilson expresses a willingness to accept any settlement "mutually agreeable to Italy and Jugoslavia regarding their common frontier in the Fiume region, provided such agreement is not made on the basis of compensation elsewhere at the expense of nationals of a third power."

This, the premiers agree, would be an ideal way of settling the question and they express willingness to do their utmost to reach a settlement by this road. In order to facilitate this process they are ready to withdraw their proposals of December 9 and January 20, because they believe if the parties principally concerned believe the allied and associated powers committed to supporting them in any particular solution it will be more difficult to secure a voluntary agreement.

The premiers therefore cordially invite the president to join them in a formal proposal to the Italian and Jugoslav governments to negotiate an agreement on the basis of withdrawal of all previous proposals.

If, however, this attempt should prove successful, the French and British premiers agree that the United States, Great Britain and France should once more consider the question in common, with the view of arriving at a concrete proposal.

The newspapers express appreciation of and agreement with President Wilson's views with regard to Albanian people and say they are willing to urge on the governments interested that they should bring their desires into line with the American viewpoint.

The premiers declare they cannot disguise that should no voluntary settlement of the Adriatic problem be attained the treaty of London would become the only valid alternative as far as they are concerned.

With regard to the treaty the premiers state that its secret character was due to military exigencies preventing its publication during the war.

RUSSIA SEEKS PEACE.

Makes Far Reaching Plans in Offer to the Allies.

Washington, D. C.—In a new peace proposal to the great powers, Soviet Russia pledges establishment of democratic principles in Russia and the calling of a constituent assembly. It promises further to withdraw the decree annulling Russia's foreign debt, restoring 60 per cent of the liability, and also to pay arrears of interest, giving as a guarantee for the fulfillment of its obligations considerable mining concessions of platinum and silver to an Anglo-American syndicate.

In return and in addition to the formal peace treaties, the Soviet government would require Great Britain and other countries to abandon all intervention in Russian affairs. It also proposes that the United States allow a credit to Russia conditioned upon considerable concessions in that country.

Food Shortage Forecasted.

Washington, D. C.—Warning that serious risk of reduced food production impends because of high wages demanded by farm laborers, high cost of farm equipment and supplies and pronounced movements of people from the farms to the cities, was given by the department of agriculture on the basis of reports and letters from all sections of the country.

Dempsey and Manager Indicted.

San Francisco, Cal.—William (Jack) Dempsey, heavyweight champion of the world, and his manager, Jack Kearns, were indicted by the federal grand jury here on a charge that they conspired to have Dempsey evade the selective draft. A second indictment against Dempsey charged actual evasion of the draft. The conspiracy charge provides for a maximum penalty of two years in the penitentiary and a \$2,000 fine and the evasion charge one year in prison.

Won't Consider Red Proposal.

Washington, D. C.—Soviet Russia's proposal to the United States for peace will receive no consideration from the American government, it was said at the State department.

Roper Decides to Quit.

Washington, D. C.—Daniel C. Roper, commissioner of the internal revenue, has informed governmental officials of his intention to resign shortly. The matter of his successor is understood to be under consideration at the White house.

FLYER ASCENDS SIX MILES

Intense Cold Causes Aviator to Lose Consciousness and Fall Nearly Entire Distance—New Record.

Dayton, O.—An airplane carrying Major R. W. Schroeder, chief test pilot at McCook field, on Friday of last week, fell over five miles after reaching an altitude of 36,020.

Instruments on the machine indicate that it fell more than five miles in two minutes. While still 2,000 feet above the ground, the airplane righted itself and glided to a graceful landing.

Major Schroeder lost consciousness when his machine had reached a height recorded by instruments as 36,020, or 5,020 feet higher than the world's record established by Roland Roinne last summer.

His senses numbed and his eyes frozen shut in a temperature said to have been 67 degrees below zero, Schroeder regained partial consciousness when 2,000 feet above the earth in time to right his machine and prevent it from crashing to the ground out of control.

When nearly seven miles above the earth, his oxygen tanks became exhausted and it was this which robbed him of consciousness, causing the fall. When the plane settled, attendants who rushed toward it found Major Schroeder sitting erect in the machine apparently lifeless. Besides a temporary blindness and shock the aviator was unharmed.

Major Schroeder was literally wrapped in flexible electric heaters. His flying suit was lined with the fur of Chinese Nuckwang dogs and between the fur and outer lining, flexible electric heat units, connected by silk covered wires with the dynamo of the engine heating the entire outfit.

SUCCEEDS LANSING.

Colby's Appointment to Secretary of State Upsets Washington.

Washington, D. C.—Bainbridge Colby, who is independent in politics, with democratic leanings, has been appointed secretary of state by President Wilson, to succeed Robert Lansing. The appointment came as a great surprise to Washington officials and politicians, who had expected the president to name a strong democrat to the post of ranking cabinet officer.

Colby until a few years ago was regarded as a progressive republican. In 1916 he supported Roosevelt, but switched to Wilson when Roosevelt refused to run as a progressive. Some politicians saw in the president's appointment of Colby an indication that Wilson believes party lines are being eradicated.

RAILROADERS STRIKE.

Lines in France Tied Up As Result of General Walkout.

Paris.—Trainmen and other employees on all the railway lines of France have been called out by a general strike order issued by the National Federation of Railway Men.

The ministry of public works has organized a volunteer service to replace strikers, to operate automobiles and aid in the work of vitalizing.

Demands of the workers consist of recognition of the union, application of the proposed graded scale, joint grievance commissions, immediate consideration of the future status of the railroads and no strike reprisals.

To Oppose All Antis.

Atlantic City.—Governor Edward I. Edwards of New Jersey declared here that he will go to the national democratic convention in San Francisco, primed to fight for an anti-prohibition plank in the democratic platform, and that he is prepared to take on William J. Bryan or anyone else who may oppose his plan. Edwards called Bryan the "paid representative of the Anti-Saloon league" and "a man without a state."

Opposed to Prohibition.

Albany.—Prohibition lifted the democratic unofficial convention here out of the doldrums and closed it with a blaze of fireworks. As a result the convention adopted the entire platform as presented by the resolutions committee, containing the plank declaring itself "unimpairedly opposed to prohibition by federal amendment," which it held "unreasonable interference with the rights of the state, and asking for repeal of the law."

Nonpartisan Electors Barred.

Bismarck, N. D.—Secretary of State Thomas Hall refused to accept for filing petitions nominating a ticket of presidential electors and delegates to the republican national convention, as endorsed by the convention of "progressive republicans" at Hillsboro. This convention included leaders of the Nonpartisan league. Hall had been prominent as an opponent of the league. Hall, in an announcement, held that the petitions were not properly prepared.

Omit Training Clause.

Washington, D. C.—The house military committee refused to include universal military training in the army reorganization bill, which was formally reorganized by Chairman Kahn. Sharp opposition to the reorganization program is assured in the house.

In rejecting consideration of the training plan the committee voted that it should become the subject of separate legislation to be framed by a "friendly" subcommittee of seven named by Mr. Kahn.

U. S. CONTROL ENDS

RAILROADS OF THE NATION RETURNED TO THEIR OWNERS.

BILL SIGNED BY PRESIDENT

Hines Will Continue to Exercise Duties. Workers Told to Proceed With Their Demands.

Washington, D. C.—America's rail transportation systems, operated as one great public utility since December 28, 1917, were returned to their 230 respective corporate owners when the government releases control March 1. Final action necessary to the ending of government control came when President Wilson Saturday signed the Esch-Cummins bill providing for the return of the properties valued at \$20,000,000,000 and setting up machinery for their regulation.

In signing the measure, the president rejected the request of railroad union men that he veto it, because of its clause dealing with labor. To the men the president addressed a letter declaring "he could not share their apprehension" over the labor provisions and urging them to proceed with their demands for better wages and working conditions in accordance with the new law.

President Wilson proposed to the men that they at once appoint representatives to meet with railroad executives, thus setting up a bipartisan board to discuss wage problems, as provided in section 301 of the Esch-Cummins bill.

The roads now are under the direction of the interstate commerce commission, which is given much greater powers by the new law. One of the first steps is expected to be application of many roads for increased rates as stipulated in the bill. The purpose of this was to prevent the lines from relying solely on the guaranty of 5 1/2 per cent and making no effort for economical operation.

Proclamations made public by President Wilson with the announcement that he had approved the railroad bill, made plain that the railroad administration will continue for some time. Its chief function will be the liquidation of claims and the winding up of the other financial matters.

Director Hines reported the total investment of the government in the railroads in \$1,031,809,451. This will be paid back by the roads over a period of years. The grand total of expenditures incident to actual operation is given as \$1,886,322,885, which includes a deficit of \$715,000,000.

ENDS IN DISASTER.

Escapade of Boy Bandits Causes Death of Four Persons.

Council Bluffs, Ia.—Three men were killed outright, one died later in a hospital, two are in a serious condition and another was wounded slightly as the result of an attempted hold-up of the Potomac pool hall at 1044 Fifteenth avenue this city by three Council Bluffs boys, all of whom were well known in the city.

There were about 25 men, mostly railroad workers who had just received their monthly pay, in the pool hall when the three bandits appeared, all wearing black handkerchief masks across the lower parts of their faces and carrying guns.

When the robbers cried, "Stick 'em up," many of the men standing near the front of the hall complied. Others did not see or hear the gunmen and one of them fired several shots into the ceiling to attract attention and emphasize their demands.

When one man attempted to resist the bandits he was shot dead. This was followed by general firing which caused a panic among inmates of the place.

Jersey Solons Vote for Beer.

Trenton, N. J.—Amid scenes of tumult and cries for recognition by members of the floor, the New Jersey house of the assembly passed a compromise "wet" bill fixing 3 1/2 per cent alcohol by volume which is declared to be slightly stronger than the 2.75 per cent of war time prohibition days, as the legal limit for beverages in New Jersey. The bill is intended to upset the prohibition amendment and the Volstead act.

To Destroy German Ships.

Paris.—The council of ambassadors has decided that the excess German shipping which was not attributed to the entente powers, will be destroyed.

Farm Hands Organizing.

Washington, D. C.—Farm hands now receiving highest wages in history, are organizing labor unions in many sections of the country, a survey just completed shows. This means higher prices of necessities.

Des Moines City of 138,000.

Des Moines, Ia.—The unofficial population of Des Moines was given as 138,182. The estimate was made by publishers of the new city directory.

Date Set for Cole's Execution.

Lincoln, Neb.—Governor McKelvie reprieved to March 19 Alton B. Cole, under sentence to be electrocuted, together with Allen V. Grammer, for murder.

Grammer, by a federal court ruling, is automatically granted a stay until his case can be heard.

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION NOTES

Lincoln.—The convention has adopted proposal No. 311, which creates a board of pardons composed of the governor, attorney general and secretary of state. This board must pass upon all matters of clemency, and notice must be given the judges and prosecuting attorneys of the county where the convict was sentenced. Public hearings must be held in all cases.

During the debate recent scandals in the release of prisoners from the penitentiary were generally aired. Epperson of Clay county said that the records show that from January 1, 1918, to January 1, 1920, 350 men have been released from the penitentiary by one method or another, and that 319 of them had been released before they had served their minimum time under the indeterminate sentence law.

After refusing to cut out any of the state officers, as the executive committee had recommended, and putting back into the list of executive officers to be elected—the lieutenant governor, attorney general, secretary of state and state superintendent—the convention refused to reinstate the land commissioner as an elective officer, and added a tax commissioner as a new officer. It also provided for salaries for the state supreme judge of \$7,500 each, but cut down the proposal for \$7,500 for the governor to \$6,000 and other state officers from \$6,000 to \$4,000.

The lieutenant governor will receive, as now, twice the pay of a senator, but as the provision was made for a raise of members of the legislature from \$900 to \$800, the lieutenant governor will receive \$1,600.

Major-General Wood in an address to the convention, laid particular stress upon the importance of encouraging greater production from the farms, by creating better markets for farm produce, and making living conditions in the country even better than they are today. To do this he advocates better roads and better schools and legislation that will improve agricultural conditions that it will draw people from the congested cities.

No. 163, the proposal on taxation providing all tangible property shall be taxed uniformly as to class, and intangible property as provided by the legislature was adopted by the body on second reading last week, as was Proposal 222, which provides that the state normal board shall consist of six members to be appointed by the governor with state superintendent member ex-officio.

Proposal No. 320, which provides that territory transferred from one county to another must be by consent of voters of both counties, and when county line in doubt legislature shall have power to place it on nearest section line or main river channel, was passed by a vote of 79 to 3.

By unanimous vote the convention approved Proposal No. 309, which provides that constitutional amendments submitted by the legislature shall be adopted by majority vote, which shall be equal to at least 56 per cent of the total vote.

The committee on insurance recommended for passage Proposal 229, which will give the legislature authority to prescribe the preference of claims in the distribution of the assets of insolvent banks.

Proposal No. 315, which provides that the house of representatives shall not be composed of more than 100 members and the senate fifty, to be fixed by law, passed on second reading by a vote of 71 to 16.

The convention voted last Friday to take a week's recess in order that the members might go home and look after business which it is generally important to be taken care of the first of the month.

The sub-committee to which was referred the question of what to do with the state school lands, valued at 32 millions, recommended to the joint committees having the matter in general charge, that the lands be sold.

The convention by a vote of 51 to 41 went on record as opposed to the women of the state voting on the ratification of the new state constitution.

The convention has approved a proposal to turn in fees received by the department of fish and game into that department instead of into the school funds.

Amendment No. 104 which raises age limit for boys for reformatory from 18 to 18 years, passed on second reading unanimously.

The committee on private corporations indefinitely postponed several proposals dealing with the reorganization of the state railway commission.

Shortly after the convention gave the legislature power to extend the terms of state officials as it sees fit, it defeated proposal No. 186, providing for the recall. It was killed on a roll call vote of 47 to 43.

Proposal No. 108 passed second reading by a vote of 72 to 8. It reduces the necessary signatures to an initiative petition from 10 to 17 per cent; constitutional amendments from 15 to 10; referendum from 10 to 5. Only title of act to be at the head of petitions.

CORNHUSKER ITEMS

News of All Kinds Gathered From Various Points Throughout Nebraska.

OF INTEREST TO ALL READERS

"Public Sentiment" is the name of a new "national weekly" to be published in Omaha. According to its editor, Thomas McMahon, it is to be "independent in politics and dedicated to individual liberty and opposition of all fanatics who would impose upon American legislation thus depriving citizens of liberties that the constitution provides."

The Washington Memorial Association, at the national capital, was assured by J. J. Tooley of Broken Bow, the past week, that Nebraska Masons will do their share toward erection of a George Washington memorial at Alexandria, Va., on the site of the building where the first president used to attend Masonic lodge.

People throughout the state are advised by Mrs. C. G. Ryan, food economy director, at Lincoln, to save their sales slips as evidence in cases where profiteering is indicated. She complains that the response of the people to the efforts being made in their behalf is not as hearty as is desired.

Robert G. Ross of Lexington filed as candidate in the democratic presidential preference primary, April 20, and was accepted. But when he attempted to file also on the republican ticket, his petition was withheld pending decision as to whether it would be possible.

The first death from sleeping sickness recorded in Nebraska occurred at Lincoln the other day when Mrs. Tessie Franklin, 23, negro, passed away after an illness of eleven days, five of which she was in a state of coma.

Families who attend the Thayer county fair at Deshler to exhibit stock or have their children attend the student classes, will be furnished free camping grounds with electric light and city water.

Charles Young, who is now in the Madison county poor house, suffering from leprosy, is believed by Dr. Clements of Neligh to have escaped from a leper colony in the county. Dr. Clements is positive the patient is a leper.

The Rev. U. G. Brown, formerly Omaha district superintendent of the Methodist church, died at Hastings of influenza. The same disease about a year ago so impaired his health that he retired from his Hastings pastorate.

Elmer E. Youngs, well known farmer and stock grower, is the non-partisan league's choice for candidate for the republican nomination for governor; he is head of a farmers' shipping association at Lexington.

With the railroads back in the hands of their owners the announced reorganization of the U. P. System indicates that the road is planning to put forth a vigorous campaign in securing business.

Reconstruction of the burned district of Table Rock is to begin in the immediate future. Work of cleaning up the debris by volunteer help is proceeding rapidly.

By order of the court the receiver of the defunct Valparaiso State bank at Valparaiso, has been authorized to pay out \$108,000 in claims against the bank.

In order to encourage home baking and thereby give old H. C. of L. a wallop, retail grocers of Omaha have agreed to sell flour at wholesale price.

Rev. Charles W. Savidge of Omaha, known as the "marrying parson," performed his 4,500th marriage ceremony one day last week.

O'Neill Community club is planning a "welcoming" celebration for the newcomers who settled in the district during the year.

Norfolk shattered all state records for drives when \$500,000 was raised for a new hotel in the course of six days.

John H. Morehead of Falls City, former governor, has entered the ring for the democratic nomination for governor.

William H. Turner, who helped build the Union Pacific line from Omaha to the coast, died at Fremont at the age of 77.

One-third of the farmers of Gage county are in need of seed corn, reports say.

Over 100 members of the Soldiers' home at Grand Island are down with influenza.

Contract has been let for the construction of thirty-two miles of dirt road east of Broken Bow. It will cost about \$220,000.

Nebraska high schools are preparing for a series of debating contests on the question of "Prohibition of strikes on railroads," which will commence about March 15.

The McCook Board of Education has put into effect a teachers' salary schedule which it claims is the best in the state. The minimum for grade teachers is \$1,100, and for high school instructors, \$1,400.

Fire at the Boys' Military Academy at Kearney caused a loss of more than \$10,000.

March 15 is the last date on which men may register for the power farming short courses of the University of Nebraska College of Agriculture at Lincoln.

Bids for the paving of Douglas county roads, including seventeen miles of the Lincoln highway, run from \$2.25 to \$5.50 per square yard, for brick paving; from \$4.35 to \$1.40 for bituminous, and \$4 per square yard for concrete.

FUNDS FOR SCHOOLS.

A total of \$414,225 will be distributed among the children of school age in Nebraska in the semi-annual apportionment being made by the state superintendent. There are 7,168 school districts in the state, but only 6,914 are participating in the present apportionment. There are 391,275 children in the state. The apportionment by counties is as follows:

County.	Anti.	Count.	Anti.
Adams	5,493	Jefferson	5,546
Antelope	5,312	Johnson	5,612
Arthur	7,290	Kearney	5,927
Banner	825	Keith	2,093
Blaine	946	Keya Paha	1,081
Bonne	4,664	Kimball	1,713
Box Butte	2,707	Knox	7,994
Boyd	2,458	Lancaster	19,631
Brown	2,641	Lincoln	6,335
Buffalo	7,203	Logan	919
Burt	4,222	Loup	1,098
Butler	5,207	McPherson	6,881
Cass	5,999	Morrison	3,339
Cedar	9,187	Merrick	3,647
Chase	2,065	Nance	3,339
Cherry	1,843	Nebraska	4,420
Cheyenne	2,148	Nemaha	1,713
Clay	4,772	Ohio	6,314
Colfax	4,107	Pawnee	3,721
Cuming	4,207	Polk	6,374
Currier	11,618	Phelps	5,662
Dakota	2,505	Pierce	4,249
Dawes	2,528	Platte	6,722
Dawson	1,717	Polk	3,011
Deuel	1,144	Red Willow	4,002
Dixon	4,497	Richardson	6,374
Dodge	6,990	Rock	3,714
Douglas	37,754	Saline	5,912
Fundy	2,307	Sarpy	2,272
Furness	4,673	Seward	6,339
Franklin	3,686	Scotts Bluff	6,289
Frontier	3,517	Sheldon	2,931
Gage	4,627	Sheridan	3,063
Gardner	9,139	Sherman	4,194
Garfield	2,194	SiouX	1,446
Grant	1,532	Stanley	2,917
Greene	1,938	Thayer	5,987
Grant	4,277	Thomas	3,969
Greeley	3,246	Thompson	3,969
Hall	6,296	Valley	3,572
Hamilton	3,448	Washington	4,146
Harrison	3,648	Webster	3,908
Hayes	1,488	Wheeler	2,983
Hickman	2,629	York	1,713
Holt	5,648	York	1,713
Hooker	397		
Howard	4,225	Total	\$414,225

The Nebraska Crop Growers' association is making plans to test the producing value of Nebraska's \$900 an acre land by conducting extensive yield contests throughout the state. The state will be divided at the west line of Nuckolls and Knox counties. In the corn contest, prizes for oats and wheat will cover the entire state. The contests will be open to men, women and children.

According to reports reaching Mrs. C. G. Ryan, head of the Nebraska Economy league and federal fair price commissioner at Lincoln, price of brown sugar over the state varies all the way from 17 to 25 cent per pound and granulated from 18 to 23. Complaints of profiteering are being received regularly and some action is looked for soon.

Official \$25,000 bonds for four secretaries under the Nebraska code bill were filed with Secretary of State Amsherry, along with the \$10,000 bonds of eleven subordinate, most of which had been held up in Governor McKelvie's office since last April. The executive department explained that the delay was due to clerical oversight.

Warning of an impending decrease in the amount of agricultural products and a subsequent shortage of food because of the high cost of farming, issued by the government, has been corroborated by a number of heads of farmers' organizations of Nebraska.

The congregation of the Bethesda Baptist church of Surprise recently celebrated the fortieth anniversary of the founding of the church. It was built in 1882 and was the first country church in Butler county.

A. E. Wickhorst, formerly of Hooper, has won a prize of \$10,000 in California for creating the best device for branding fruits and nuts, so writes Ross L. Hammond to an old friend at Fremont.

W. N. Hensley, commandant of the Milford Soldiers' home; Walter Rowden, adjutant, and Mrs. Schultz, matron, have all tendered their resignations to take effect April 1.

Buffalo county's poor farm has been abandoned and inmates removed to the W. C. T. U. hospital at Kearney. The buildings and land will be sold by the county.

Over 300 persons attended the fiftieth anniversary of the Masonic lodge at North Platte and the twelfth anniversary of the dedication of their new temple.

Myron Learned of Omaha is to fill R. W. Devoe's place as chairman of the republican state central committee. Devoe resigned recently.

Material for paving streets of West Point has reached the city and work is to begin as soon as spring opens.

The annual Nebraska state championship bowling tournament will be held in Fremont March 6 to 13.